Protect trees from nutria with hexagonal screen and barbed wire

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https://sites.google.com/view/low-tech-farm-tools

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Nutria (Myocastor coypus) is an invasive semi-aquatic rodent currently found in temperate regions of US (see www.invasivespecies.gov/nutria). They thrive on aquatic vegetations, shrubs and trees near waterways and could cause significant damage to vegetations in the area.

Trees near a nutria colony in the Willamette Valley, Oregon, was protected from nutria damage using 1 inch hexagonal wire screen (poultry netting) 24 inches tall placed around the tree trunk. Barbed wire (4 points, 6 inch spacing, 15 ½ gauge wire) placed around the top of the screen prevented nutrias from climbing or pawing the hexagonal wire screen. Nutrias will attempt to climb up the wire screen rather than burrow under the screen.